

510,303

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau



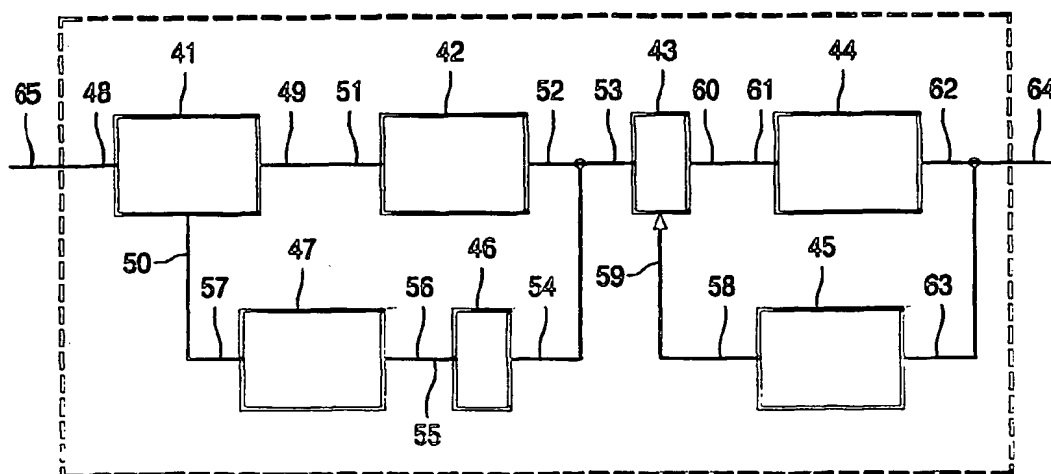
(43) International Publication Date
16 October 2003 (16.10.2003)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 03/085667 A1

- (51) International Patent Classification⁷: **G11B 20/14**, H03M 5/14
- (21) International Application Number: PCT/IB03/01460
- (22) International Filing Date: 10 April 2003 (10.04.2003)
- (25) Filing Language: English
- (26) Publication Language: English
- (30) Priority Data:
02076424.7 11 April 2002 (11.04.2002) EP
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- (81) Designated States (*national*): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (*regional*): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).
- Published:**
— with international search report
— before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments
- For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: STOCHASTIC DC CONTROL



(57) Abstract: When recording data on a record carrier control of the DC content of the data as recorded is important in order to allow accurate reproduction of the data. The Digital Sum Value represents the DC content, The Digital Sum Value can be controlled by replacing code words at the output of an encoder by code words that can never occur during encoding. The replacement code word has different parity than the code word it replaces. The resulting stream of code words is subsequently encoded using an NRZI coder, so that the change in parity resulting from the replacement code word results in a change of polarity of the NRZI output. The replacement code word can thus be used to change the polarity of the NRZI output if required to keep the Digital Sum Value low.

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